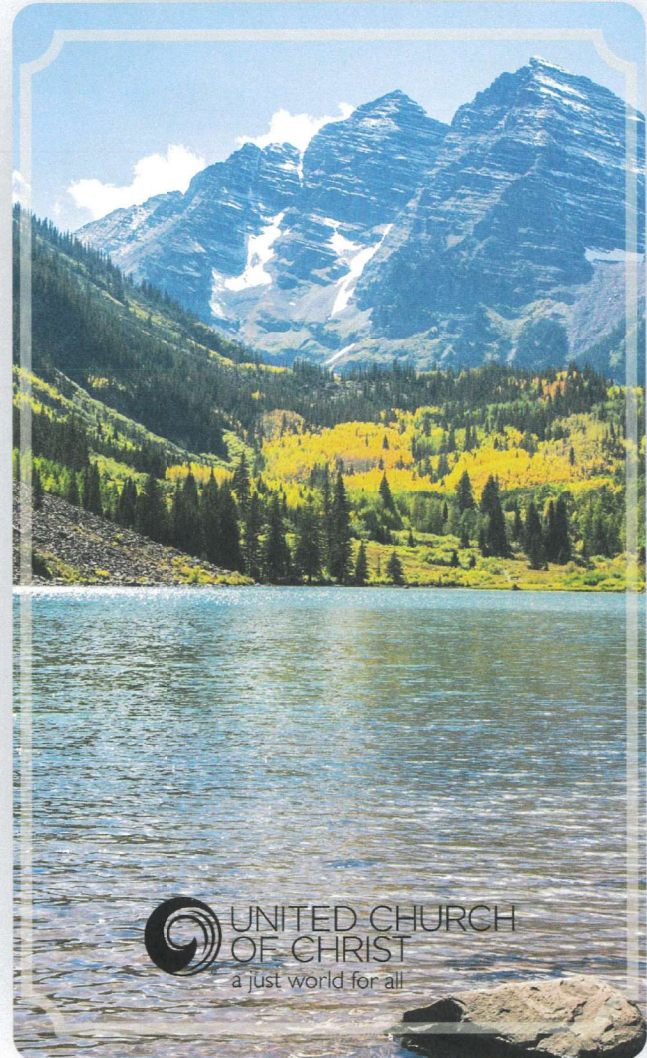


BUL0101



8 1/2" x 14 UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE
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SEPTEMBER 6, 2026



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



St. John's United Church of Christ
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2026



* Please stand if it is comfortable to do so. **Bold print** is everyone in unison

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GREET ONE ANOTHER (be seated)

PRELUDE

CHURCH BELL (the bell invites us to worship)

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP (responsively)

We are tapestries richly woven with the threads of your artistry and workmanship, O Lord.

As clay in the potter's hand, as sculpture beneath an artist's chisel, you are in us.

We are grateful for this "grace-ful" process through which your Spirit shapes and defines our yielding soulscape.

We celebrate the riches of your grace by seeking to embody a community of believers deeply rooted in the Truth.

***OPENING HYMN** *Christ You Teach Us of Your Kingdom*
(tune: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*)

***WE INVITE GOD TO WORSHIP** (unison)

Majestic God, shine your light upon us with your love and mercy. Shine upon us, Lord, with the brightness of your grace. **As we have gathered together to worship, reveal to us your purpose and truth. Reveal to us your ways so that we may fully and faithfully serve you as disciples and believers. Amen.**

***RESPONSE** *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* (refrain) #557

ANTHEM *I'll Meet You in the Morning* Choir
(directed by Conway Wilson)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (children please come forward) *Jesus Loves Me*
(Children K-6th Grade are welcome to leave with Faith Ventures leaders)

****OFFERING INVITATION:** God is so good and we are richly blessed. Let us give back to God with gratitude and thanksgiving.

***RESPONSE** *For the Beauty of the Earth* (v. 1) #56

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison)

God of Justice, Mercy, and Fairness: **We commit ourselves and these offerings unto you, that your will and ways may be manifested in our lives, within your assemblies, and spread forth that the powers that be might serve your purposes until all are fed, housed, cared for, work with dignity, and all of these things done in ways that preserve the sanctity of this one precious earth. Amen.**

WE GATHER IN PRAYER

Silent Prayers – Pastoral Prayer-The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Congregational Response: *Great is Thy Faithfulness* (refrain) #86

SCRIPTURE:

Old Testament: Exodus 12:1-14

New Testament: Romans 13:8-14

The Word of God for the People of God **Thanks be to God**

MESSAGE *Passover & Communion*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

***CLOSING HYMN** *Here at Thy Table, Lord* #384

***BLESSING** (responsively)

Let your lives witness to Christ's love; your words bring reconciliation; your thoughts be of peace; your touch bring healing; your actions count for justice.

Let us be a sign of hope and a beacon of joy: May God's blessing go with us. Amen.

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Go in Peace* #445

* **POSTLUDE**

Announcements

***You may place your offering in the plate at the back of the sanctuary or online at myuc.org and clicking on the contribute button. Please prayerfully consider setting up regular online donations to continue our outreach into the community.*

FAITH VENTURES is our Faith Formation program (formerly Sunday School) for grades K-6th. Participants leave with the teachers following the Children's Moment and return by end of service. Younger children are invited to play quietly under parental supervision in the Playground in the back of the sanctuary.

CHOIR & HANDBELLS rehearse with Jonathan Clark on Wednesdays with handbells at 3:00 pm and choir at 4:00 pm. All ringers and singers are invited to attend.

CONFIRMATION CLASS will meet on September 13th & 27th at 5:00 p.m. If you haven't yet signed up for the class, please do so ASAP so books and Bibles can be ordered.

NEXT SUNDAY: GRANDPARENTS DAY will be celebrated during worship on September 13th with special recognitions of all grandparents and the role they play in our faith formation. **REMEMBRANCE of the 25th Anniversary of 9/11.**

SEPTEMBER MOVIE NIGHT is September 20th at 5:00 featuring Ryan Gosling in the recent mega box-office hit, *Project Hail Mary*. Science teacher Rylan Grace wakes up on a spaceship with no recollection of who he is or how he got there. As his memory returns, he begins to uncover his mission: solve the riddle of the mysterious substance causing the sun to die out. He must call on his scientific knowledge to save everything on Earth from extinction but an unexpected friendship means he may not have to do it alone.

A NIGHT AT THE RACES on Saturday, September 12th to watch our own Delaynee Coomes compete in Dirt Track racing at Red Hill Raceway in Sumner, IL. Sign up to attend on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary. The entrance fee is \$25 (cash only facility) and hot laps begin at 7:30 pm. More details to come. If we have enough people, we may take the church van. Let's turn out and support Delaynee!

FALL FESTIVAL sponsored by The Membership Development Committee will take place on Sunday, October 4th from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the church parking lot, featuring: Pet Blessing; Lincoln Trail Mobile Farm (petting zoo), Face Painting, Vincennes Firetruck and firefighters, Bounce House, free food, marshmallow roasting for S'mores, gift card raffle, carnival games, race car, pumpkin painting and MORE! Plan now to participate and volunteer to help! Invite your friends and families. **WE NEED THE LOAN OF SEVERAL POP-UP TENTS. PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW IF YOU HAVE ONE WE CAN USE.** Also needed: \$20 gift cards for raffles. Please let us know if you can help with set-up and cleanup. Thanks!

OUR STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN is *There Our Hearts Shall Be* based on Matthew 6:21. Watch for more details from the Stewardship Committee in the weekly bulletin.

PET BLESSING will take place during the Fall Festival. Pastor Debbie will be set up throughout the event to blessing any animal you wish to bring. Dogs must be leashed, Cats & small animals in carriers and large animals (horse, cow, llama, elephant) must be tethered and controlled by the owner. Each animal will receive a small tag and prayer card.

CHURCH PICNIC DATE is September 27th at the Open Air Pavillion in Gregg Park. Mark your calendars! The Church Board will be providing pulled pork (by Brayton Cummins) and everyone is asked to bring a side dish to serve 10-12 people.

THE NEIGHBORS IN NEED offering supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries. In 2025 the Neighbors in Need Offering supported 26 grant recipients across the UCC who were engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy. We will gather our NIN offering in worship on **October 4**. Thank you for your support and generosity!

OUR KIDS HOPE USA program in partnership with Riley Elementary School is entering its **25th year** of service this fall 2026. New mentors are continually needed to mentor children at Riley School. A mentor's role includes: one day a week contact, available 11:00 -12:00 OR. 12:00-1:00, and a passion to be a significant person in the life of a child. Training is available. Contact the church office for referral information. 812-882-2720.

Conway Wilson—will be 93 years old on January 31st. Music has been a big part of his life for many years. While in high school he sang bass with a quartet that could be heard on WAOV every Sunday afternoon. He went on to Anderson University, graduating in 1956 with a BS degree in sacred music and voice. A classmate of his was Bill Gaither. Conway has been choir director here at St. John's two different times, last retiring in 2005. Now he says he's too aged for leadership, but will gladly continue to support younger leaders.

Prayers Posts

We ask for continuing prayer requests for: Marilyn Houchins, John Mineo, Cindi Gilmore, Kim Godare's daughter Mallory, Marvin Covey, Colten Kirchoff and Jane Ann Marchino.

Shut-in Addresses:

Susie Milligan - Colonial Assisted Living, Room 118, 1622 S Hart Street Road, Vincennes, IN 47591
Leona Conway - Aperion Care, C Wing Room C-35, 3801 Old Bruceville Road, Vincennes, IN 47591

At Home:

Gary Meyer
Mike Lankford

This Week in the Life of St. John's

Sunday, September 06

Adult SS Class 9:30am
Worship @ 10:30am
Labor Day—Wear work clothes
Choir Directed by Conway

Monday, September 07

BABE Store 12-5:30pm
Office Closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 08

Pastor in Evansville for Mtg. @ 11:30am

Wednesday, September 09

Handbells @ 3pm
Choir @ 4pm

Thursday, September 10

Dinner & Conversation
Procopio's @ 6pm

Friday, September 11

Pastor's Day Off

Looking Ahead In September 2026

Sunday, September 13

Adult SS Class 9:30am
Fellowship 10:00 am
Worship @ 10:30am
Youth Meeting 3:30-5:00pm
Grandparents Recognition
Remembrance 25th. Anniversary of 911
Confirmation Class 5:00pm

Monday, September 14

BABE Store 12-5:30pm
Pastor @ Christian Nationalism Workshop

Tuesday, September 15

Wednesday, September 16

Handbells @ 3pm
Choir @ 4pm
Pastor Debbie out of office

Thursday, September 17

Dinner & Conversation
Kelso's @ 6pm

Friday, September 18

Pastor's Day Off



Staff and Volunteers

Pastor:	Rev. Debbie Jo Atkins
Secretary	Kim Butler
Church Board President:	Sandra Lange
Choir Director	Jonathan Clark
Pianist:	Pat Sparks
Children & Family Ministry Coordinator:	Will Meyer
Head Usher:	Allison Cummins
Projection:	Sandra Lange
Sound:	Brian Fillingim
Liturgist:	Ren Simmons

Did You Know?

St. John's Sunday Morning Worship Services are streamed **LIVE** on our church's Facebook page, "**St. John's United Church of Christ Vincennes.**"

Or, you can watch the Worship Service at your convenience by going on the church website, "**myucc.org**" and clicking on "Worship Service" for a particular date.

You can also download a copy of each monthly **church newsletter** from our church website to keep up with all the activities.